

The NSPCC's Child Trafficking Information and Advice Line

Background

Over recent years voluntary sector organisations have expressed their concerns to the Government about the need to provide greater protection for child victims of trafficking in the UK. The Government acknowledges that any child identified as being at significant risk of harm should be provided with the appropriate safeguarding and those children who may have been trafficked are no exception.

The need for extra advice and guidance to help practitioners caring for children suspected of being trafficked was recognised as something that would be a positive step in protecting trafficked children. The feedback from consultations with our stakeholders pointed to the need for a national child trafficking information and advice line service for practitioners who might need further guidance on how best to care for a child they believe to be a victim of trafficking.

Working in partnership with NSPCC, ECPAT, CEOP (Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre) and Comic Relief, the Home Office will match fund with Comic Relief the start up and operation of a new national child trafficking information and advice line. The service is due to be launched in the summer and will be a unique reference point for practitioners to access advice and guidance on how best to protect the welfare of trafficked children.

Objectives of the NSPCC Child Trafficking Information and Advice Line

- To provide a central, easily accessible and reliable source of information and advice on child trafficking for concerned professionals.
- Child trafficking and exploitation cases will be more quickly and reliably identified resulting in appropriate advice and support, ensuring effective assessment and initiating intervention where necessary.
- Professionals across the UK will be more accurately and consistently informed about child trafficking, its nature and impact, their options for dealing with it and learning from good practice.
- Partnership networks will be reinforced as a result of appropriate sharing of good practice.
- The service will significantly contribute to a clearer understanding of child trafficking and exploitation in the UK.

Finding out more about the Information and Advice Line

The launch of the Information and Advice Line will be publicised in the media as well as given publicity, on the individual websites of the NSPCC, ECPAT, CEOP, Comic Relief and the Home Office.

Funded by:

